

To: R8EISC[R8EISC@epa.gov]
Cc: Spenser W Havlick[havlick@colorado.edu]
From: Spenser W Havlick
Sent: Fri 8/14/2015 3:30:20 AM
Subject: Re: ... editorial for the Daily Camera ... greetings Shaun,

Dear Shaun,

I know you are busy but I want to give you a chance to comment on my Boulder Daily Camera draft (Animas River), please.

Call if easier.....303-494-0664.

Spense

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is the preeminent federal watchdog and protector of our nation's water, land and air quality. To have the catastrophe of the poisoned Animas River caused by EPA contractors is as embarrassing as it is intolerable. EPA-hired hands were attempting to mitigate heavy metal discharges in to the Animas River when a dam was breached at the Gold King mine. The arsenic-lead-cadmium-mercury-zinc plume extending beyond southwestern Colorado into New Mexico and then into the Navajo Reservation impacts some of the most fragile landscapes and most vulnerable people.

The mustard colored Animas River that suffered acid mine water discharge this week has unusual connections to Boulder. The Regional 8 EPA Administrator is Shaun McGrath, is a former Boulder mayor (2007) and a strong environmental advocate. He worked at the White House during the BP Gulf oil spill and has faced outrage from impacted citizens and elected officials. Shaun hosted a public meeting in Durango that was met with charges of cover up, distrust of the federal government and demands for reparations from the contaminated river corridors.

I have admired the beauty of the Animas, worked a service project on the Navajo Reservation and know kayakers and anglers from Boulder who cherish the Animas watershed. Many people from Boulder, including myself cherish Lake Powell, the San Juan River and Four Corners despite being riddled with uranium and acid mine wastes. Without required old mine cleanup, Superfund designation is the unpopular solution.

On Aug 12, 2015, at 2:03 PM, R8EISC wrote:

Email: press@epa.gov

Aug. 12, 2015

2:00 PM MDT: EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy Holding Media Availability in

Durango, CO

DURANGO, CO - EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy will visit Durango, CO today to inspect response efforts relating to the release of waste water from Gold King mine, and meet with state, local and tribal officials and community members. McCarthy will hold a media availability in Durango for credentialed news media only about the response. Tomorrow, Administrator McCarthy will visit the response efforts in Farmington, NM. More details about the visit will be released as they become available.

WHEN: 2:00 PM MTN

WHO: EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy

WHAT: Administrator McCarthy media availability on the unified response to the Gold King Mine incident.

WHERE: Outside Gold King Mine Unified Command Center
2500 Main. Ave.
Durango, CO 81301

NOTE: The media availability in Durango will take the place of today's media conference call.

From: Spenser W Havlick <havlick@colorado.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 7:31 PM
To: R8EISC
Cc: Spenser W Havlick
Subject: greetings Shaun,

Spense Havlick is writing a brief editorial for the Daily Camera and would like a brief comment. Spense would like to give EPA the benefit of doubt as he covers this story. Most useful from Shaun would be thoughts on best possible mitigation for the Animas (and Navajo Nation, etc.) and how to prevent future acid mine contamination in Region 8.

Best regards to Shaun from Boulder city council colleague.

This is Spense Havlick writing.....303-494-0664